

JC18 Rec'd PCT/PTO 2 5 MAY 2001

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Pessi, et al.

Serial No.: Case No.: IT0013P

Filed:

For: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOUNDS  
FOR THE INHIBITION OF HEPATITIS C  
VIRUS NS3 PROTEASEPRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the application filed herewith as provided below.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 13 without prejudice to future prosecution.

Please amend the claims by replacing and adding claims as follows:

3. (Amended Once) The compound of claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or derivative thereof which is N-terminally acylated.

4. (Amended Once) A compound, salt or derivative according to claim 1 wherein A'-B'-C'-D' is a tetrapeptide of formula:

Pro-B'-C'-Leu

wherein B' and C' are as defined in claim 1.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE  
DATE OF DEPOSIT MAY 23 2001  
EXPRESS MAIL NO. EM 230307 696 US  
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